administering to a host a foreign Ab1 that binds to the soluble antigen;

C1 forming a complex between the foreign Ab1, wherein the formation of the complex exposes an epitope that is unexposed when the foreign Ab1 is not complexed to the antigen;

and allowing the host to generate antibodies that bind to the exposed epitope.

Please amend claim 71 to read as follows.

C2 71. (Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the foreign Ab1 is selected from the group consisting of one member of an immunologic pair; an antibody; a monoclonal antibody; an antibody fragment; a single chain antibody; a humanized antibody or fragment; a chimera antibody or fragment; a peptide; and a protein.

Remarks

Claims 30, 71, 73-76, 85-89 and 91-97 are currently pending. Claims 61-63, 66, 67, 69, 72, 77-84 and 90 have been canceled without prejudice to their prosecution in a continuing application.

Claims 30, 67, 69, 71, and 73-76 are rejected as anticipated by Koprowski et al. Claims 67 and 69 have been canceled, rendering this rejection moot as to those claims. Claims 30 and 71 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner to recite "Ab1" in place of "binding agent". Claims 73-76 are dependent on claim 71. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection has been overcome by amendment.

Claims 66, 67 and 69 have are rejected as anticipated by Raso et al. These claims have been canceled, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

Claim 69 has been rejected as anticipated by Madiyalakan et al. Claim 69 has been canceled, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

Claim 61 has been rejected as anticipated by Zanetti. Claim 61 has been canceled, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

Claims 30, 61-63, 66, 67, 69, 71, 73-80, 82-89 and 91-97 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,241,985. Enclosed herewith is a terminal disclaimer, which overcomes this rejection.

Claims 72, 81 and 90 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,086,873. These claims have been canceled, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

Applicants are unable to locate any declaration filed January 7, 2002. A copy of the executed power of attorney filed June 10, 2002 is enclosed. The original executed inventors' declarations were filed March 2, 1999.

For the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 30, 71, 73-76, 85-89 and 91-97 are now ready for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any discussion of this reply would be helpful, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney by telephone at 781-938-1805.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10/16/02

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EXHIBIT A
AMENDED CLAIMS

30. (Twice-amended) A method of stimulating the production of antibodies that bind to an epitope on a soluble antigen comprising:

administering to a host a foreign Ab1 [binding agent] that binds to the soluble antigen;

forming a complex between the foreign Ab1 [binding agent], wherein the formation of the complex exposes an epitope that is unexposed when the foreign Ab1 [binding agent] is not complexed to the antigen;

and allowing the host to generate antibodies that bind to the exposed epitope.

61. CANCELLED.

62. CANCELLED.

63. CANCELLED.

66. CANCELLED.

67. CANCELLED.

69. CANCELLED.

71. (Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the foreign Ab1 [binding agent] is selected from the group consisting of one member of an immunologic pair; an antibody; a monoclonal antibody; an antibody fragment; a single chain antibody; a humanized antibody or fragment; a chimera antibody or fragment; a peptide; and a protein.

72. CANCELLED.

77. CANCELLED.

78. CANCELLED.

79. CANCELLED.

80. CANCELLED.

81. CANCELLED.

82. CANCELLED.

83. CANCELLED.

84. CANCELLED.

90. CANCELLED.

EXHIBIT B

PENDING CLAIMS

30. (Twice-amended) A method of stimulating the production of antibodies that bind to an epitope on a soluble antigen comprising:

administering to a host a foreign Ab1 that binds to the soluble antigen;

forming a complex between the foreign Ab1, wherein the formation of the complex exposes an epitope that is unexposed when the foreign Ab1 is not complexed to the antigen;

and allowing the host to generate antibodies that bind to the exposed epitope.

61. CANCELLED.

62. CANCELLED.

63. CANCELLED.

66. CANCELLED.

67. CANCELLED.

69. CANCELLED.

71. (Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the foreign Ab1 is selected from the group consisting of one member of an immunologic pair; an antibody; a monoclonal antibody; an antibody fragment; a single chain antibody; a humanized antibody or fragment; a chimera antibody or fragment; a peptide; and a protein.

72. CANCELLED.

73. The method of claim 30, wherein the soluble antigen is associated with a human disease or condition.

74. The method of claim 73, wherein the human disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of cancer; tumor; drugs of abuse; multiple sclerosis; allergy; human immunodeficiency virus; bacterial infection; autoimmune diseases; human viruses; and asthma.

75. The method of claim 74, wherein the cancer is selected from the group consisting of breast, ovarian, prostate, and gastro-intestinal cancers.

76. The method of claim 30, wherein the host is a human.

77. CANCELLED.

78. CANCELLED.

79. CANCELLED.

80. CANCELLED.

81. CANCELLED.

82. CANCELLED.

83. CANCELLED.

84. CANCELLED.

85. A composition for altering immunogenicity comprising an antigen and a binding agent that specifically binds to the antigen, wherein the binding agent and the antigen form a complex, and wherein administration of the composition to a host alters the host immune response against the antigen.

86. The composition of claim 85, wherein the binding agent is selected from the group consisting of one member of an immunologic pair; an antibody; a monoclonal antibody; an antibody fragment; a single chain antibody; a humanized antibody or fragment; a chimera antibody or fragment; a peptide; and a protein.

87. (Amended) The composition of claim 85, wherein the binding agent is a monoclonal antibody.

88. The composition of claim 87, wherein the monoclonal antibody is B43.13.

89. The composition of claim 87, wherein the monoclonal antibody is AR20.5.

90. CANCELLED.

91. The composition of claim 85, wherein the antigen is associated with a human disease or condition.

92. The composition of claim 91, wherein the human disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of cancer; tumor; drugs of abuse; multiple sclerosis; allergy; human immunodeficiency virus; bacterial infection; autoimmune diseases; human viruses; and asthma.

93. The composition of claim 92, wherein the cancer is selected from the group consisting of breast, ovarian, prostate, and gastro-intestinal cancers.

94. The composition of claim 85, wherein the antigen is a multi-epitopic antigen.

95. The composition of claim 85, wherein the antigen is a soluble antigen.

96. The composition of claim 85, wherein the host is a human.

97. The composition of claim 85, wherein forming a complex between the binding agent and the antigen comprises exposing a previously inaccessible epitope on the antigen.